

The Story of Our States

By JONATHAN BRACE
XXXIX.—DAKOTAS



NORTH and South Dakota formed the northern section of the Louisiana Purchase by the acquisition of which from France the United States nearly doubled its size.

The Dakotas were the last states which were made up wholly from this purchase, to become a part of the Union. Shortly after its acquisition, the Lewis and Clark expedition was sent out to explore it and they spent their first winter in 1804 near Mandan. The British had many fur posts in this region, and as they considered it part of British territory, they built a fort in 1810 near Pembina. British rights, however, were withdrawn in the Treaty of 1818, which established the formal boundary between the United States and Canada.



THE Sioux Indians, who had been very hostile toward white invasion finally ceded a portion of their land to the government in 1861. This was opened up to settlement and thus immigration was started in this part of the country. In 1884 the section west of the Missouri river became a part of Nebraska territory, while the portion to the east was attached to Minnesota. However, in 1881, the separate Territory of Dakota was organized. Population did not increase rapidly, until 1886, due to the warlike demonstrations of the Indians.

It is from these Indians that the name Dakota comes. But it was not until 1889 that the Dakota territory was divided and formed into two states. To avoid any feeling of jealousy as to which was made a state first, the two bills were signed by President Harrison after they had been shuffled up and were then re-shuffled so it is not known which was signed first. Their areas are about the same, North Dakota containing 70,837 square miles, while South Dakota has 77,615 square miles. The population is also about equal and each is entitled to five presidential electors.

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WELL BRED HOGS GAIN WEIGHT MORE RAPIDLY THAN DO SCRUBS

The importance of good breeding in the growth of livestock, and especially in the prevention of runts, is illustrated by the experience of an Indiana swine grower. "I started with stock," he remarks in a letter to the United States Department of Agriculture, "direct from the foundation stock of the breed, and the results were satisfactory." When I had time to read of the work of other men, the results of feed composition and experimental feed trials, I took from these experiences what I thought practical for me to follow, and the results, though not exceptional, have been the natural results of good blood and good feed. One of my boars, farrowed in April several years ago, weighed 165 pounds the following September. At 14 months he weighed 606 pounds, at 28 months 850 pounds, and the following fall 1,015 pounds. This boar was one in a lot of 15, as uniform a bunch as I ever saw. Others grew into 600 and 800 pound hogs under favorable care.

"In addition to good blood lines," he adds, "care and the right kind of feed are important means of preventing undersized animals, but the most important of all is the man with the feed basket, for it is 'the eye of the master that fatteneth his cattle.' So far as runts are concerned, I have never found it profitable to raise them under any treatment. I have seen lots of 'before and after' illustrations on paper but not in the feed lot."

SHORT STOP STUFF.

If the American people get much richer some of us will have to get poor again in order to become conspicuous.

Prohibition has proven quite successful in spots. But where are the spots?

By the way, is congress still in session, or are they loafing around in Washington, or have they all gone home? If those birds don't make another noise soon it will look suspicious.

Although he is surrounded by the high dignitaries of the world, know just how cool a cucumber is.

Steam Pressing

ALTERING AND REPAIRING
Agents for McEwen's Laundry
Suits Dyed
Hats Cleaned And Blocked
Come or Call



West Side Barber & Pressing Shop
T. ROBBINS, Prop. Home Phone

The Prince of Good Fellows



Photo by F. Thompson.

AFRAID OF SANTA

Black Tots at African Mission
Make for Place of Safety.

Presents of Apparel and Sweets Bring
Confidence to the Men, Women
and Kiddies.

AN AMUSING story of how Santa Claus frightened the black children at a mission station when he first appeared to them a few years ago, is told by the wife of a missionary stationed at Ballunda, Africa. They had celebrated Christmas at Ballunda before, but they never had had Santa Claus; so Mr. Stover, the missionary, dressed up as good Saint Nick.

"He had been padded and powdered and packed until his own mother would not have known him," Mrs. Stover afterward related. "Presently we gave the signal, the door flew open and in walked Santa Claus. But, dear me! What consternation! He was greeted with shrieks and groans and cries of 'Let me out! It is the evil one. It is the day of judgment!'"

"The urchins, catching the infection of terror from the older black people, fled to their bedrooms, fell down upon their faces, crept under chairs and tables—anywhere to hide themselves. Poor old Santa Claus never had such a greeting before. As soon as he realized the panic he had caused, he tore off his 'all hat and white cotton beard. Then from the bags on his back he began to throw gifts right and left and to tell who he was."

"Reassured once more, everyone was soon laughing and chatting, munching the great 'red breads' (doughnuts), tasting their fruits or nibbling at the sweets from the familiar little bags. One man wondered which end up he was to hold the fork Santa Claus had given him. Another immediately tried on his new shirt. The girls arranged their bright-hued handkerchiefs into turbans, while others sought to find some place about their scanty clothing where they could stow away their bunch of bread, as well as the paper of needles and cake of soap given to each."

"It seemed as though everyone tried to talk louder than his neighbor as they examined the costume of Santa Claus, whom they now no longer feared. One man said that he thought it was John the Baptist; another that it was Elijah returned. Yet another thought it was Satan himself."

Hanging Pictures.

In hanging pictures don't "sky them." A picture should be hung so that its center comes just on a level with a person of average height.

WHY NOT

—a—

BANK BOOK

—for—

CHRISTMAS?

CAN you conceive of anything your son or daughter would like better than to receive a nice new bank book on Christmas morning, and realize that he or she is suddenly and unexpectedly possessed of a bank account just like grownups?

Think of the incentive it would be to the young one to save, and accumulate, and watch it grow.

Think, also, of the valuable lesson of life it would be to a child, or a young man, or a girl.

Think of all of these things then make the deposit and get the book.

First National Bank,

CHRISTMAS

A Man Wants It



In making your Christmas selections for men be sure and keep the practical suggestions before you. Men appreciate servicable, substantial Gifts, such as Society Brand suits and overcoats, Stetson hats, Stacy Adams shoes, Shaw knit socks, shirts, good dark neckwear, gloves, cuff buttons, raincoats, umbrellas, etc.

Don't think we are forgetting the other members of the family, either. We are well prepared in stock and suggestions for mother, sister, sweetheart and the kids.

Come early and avoid the Christmas week rush.

MADDUX & MASSA

Cookeville's Fastest Growing Store